

1. My main research question is whether males and females differ in their verbal aggression toward teachers.
2. My study is descriptive (naturalistic observation).
3. I chose a naturalistic study because I feel it is important to understand aggression in a natural setting where no one is controlling behaviors. Also, it is a relatively easy experiment to run. For example, since I just have to observe behavior it will not be necessary to schedule specific experiment sessions.
4. My hypothesis is that boys will be more aggressive toward teachers. I am basing my hypothesis on the general idea that males are more aggressive than women and are more willing to show this aggression. I think this may be especially true with language, since boys see and hear male role models talking in an aggressive manner in a lot of situations in real life as well as in the media.
5. I will be examining the number of times a male or female shows verbal aggression. Amount of verbal aggression is a ratio variable. I will measure it by counting the number of times a student says something that is hostile, attacking, or rude.
6. I am not proposing a correlational study.
7. I am not using a correlational design.
8. I am not using the experimental method.
9. Because I am using a naturalistic study I do not believe that my research will be harmful to participants. In fact, it is no more harmful than what students would experience in their everyday lives. However, it is always possible that my

presence in the classroom will lead to students being more verbally aggressive than if I were not there.

10. The knowledge gained from my study could add to the research on how aggression develops and why genders differ with regard to aggression. For example it may be that boys develop verbal aggressiveness earlier than girls and use various types of phrases to express this aggression. This may lead to programs in school to try and stop this aggression before it develops. Such programs might include having boys talk to others in a way that avoids certain types of aggressive phrases. In this way, boys may become more self-conscious about using such negative language in school as well as in other social situations.